TRACER

McHENRY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(An Illinois Not-For-Profit Corp)

6422 Main Street, Union, Illinois 60180

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TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday - June 8, 1975 - 1:30 P. M.
at
McHenry County Historical Museum - Union, Illinois

Our meeting will feature a bicentennial film explaining what it all means. Horizons! Heritage! Festivals! The film title is "Illinois '76".

Plan to attend! Perhaps you will feel a greater obligation to participate in your own community's observance as a result of viewing this film.

As you may know, the museum is still not open to the public due to the excessive renovations being conducted on the second floor.

You will note the annual meeting has been postponed from the first Sunday in May to the above date due to work in progress and the many conflicts occuring in May. Accordingly your board of directors has changed the by-laws so that all future annual meetings will occur on the second Sunday in June.

Your continued support is appreciated. We are approaching the beginning of another membership year. If possible, please send check for dues prior to the annual meeting, to the museum - 6422 Main Street, Union, Illinois 60180. This will avoid confusion at the door of the Exhibit Hall. Individual - $2.00; Family - $5.00; Businesses - $15.00; Life memberships, paid at one time $100.00.

Maintenance, electric, heat and water and telephone bills should be paid entirely from income from dues. Ask your neighbors, friends or relatives to join you at the annual meeting and become members of the society. Continual financial support will go towards completion of the second floor, main exhibit hall display areas, outside shutters and painting, gutters, tuckpointing, as well as pay interest on loans from banks and savings and loans; all of which must be repaid within two more years.

Bicentennial Funds Applied For.

Through the efforts of directors, especially Ruth Cripe, Chester Nelson and Dorothy McEachren, application has been made for "matching funds" to assist the society in its efforts for the museum's Grand Opening on July 4, 1976. On and off for the last three months, estimates were sought, pictures taken and requests formalized in an effort to meet the bicentennial committee's theme for a lasting project of historic significance. Let's hope the effort is rewarded.

Volunteers needed as Guides.

While the society is always in need of help, in order to begin getting the needed revenue from visitors we must be open to the public. The only way we can open to the public is to have enough interested and prepared guides to serve the many needs the open doors require. If you are willing or know of anyone who is willing to serve as a guide, please make it known at the annual meeting or contact Dorothy McEachren by phone at 338-1985 or 923-2267, or Ruth Cripe at 923-4105. What hours we are open will depend on number of volunteers for

training program which will consist of acquainting guides with the history of major exhibits. A short slide presentation will be shown to groups before taking them on tours. Help! Help! Let's get the revenue flowing!

Genealogy Cards.

A double 5"x8" card form is available for the use of each person in the county who wishes to record his or her family tree and to have it placed permanently in the museum archives. This file will be a vailable for use in case relatives and others wish to research needed date. The fee for these cards is $1.00 per card.

The card lists data on births, deaths, burial place, marriages, names of parents, spouses, children and where they live, occupation, membership in lodges, churches and other organizations, offices held, school and military records, etc.

These cards will be placed on file in a fireproof vault and access will be allowed for any information to be changed or added at no additional cost.

Illinois Congress of Historical Societies Workshop.

Dorothy McEachren, Ruth Cripe, Otis Cripe, Betty Oberg, Chester Nelson and Leta Clark attended a recent workshop held at the Lake County Museum near Lake Zurich. Many ideas on various museum procedures were exchanged with old and new participants supplying the information. In turn these ideas were discussed at our April board meeting. It is hoped that more members will attend in the future as our museum is fast approaching the point whereby knowledge procedure and action are needed to make our building and its contents a worthwhile attraction for McHenry County citizens as well as friends and visitors from afar. Won't you come and help?

Acquisitions.

Colorful sleigh robe, circa late 1800s. Belonged to Joseph Wienke of Algonquin. Donor: Mrs. Arthur Priegnitz, Sr., Huntley.

Fireman's rubber coat and high boots, circa 1925-30. Worn by Leon Northrop of Union. Donor: Mrs. Dorothy Northrop, Union.

Complete perpetual trouble shooter's manual containing electronic diagrams of radios, television, etc., by John F. Rider, circa 1933. Thirteen (13) volumes. Donor: Mr. & Mrs. Robert Venables, Crystal Lake.

Many early photographs from the Frank Axtell estate of Harvard.

Ice cream freezer, circa 1930. Hooded milk pail, circa 1920s. Iron wagon jack, circa 1920s. Wicker laundry basket, circa 1920s. Wicker Dog basket, circa 1960s. Grain cradle, circa 1900s. Donor: Mr. & Mrs. Walter Anderson, Crystal Lake. (Also two (2) wagon wheels, circa 1900s.)

Collection of 125 arrow and spear points, tomahawk, piece of copper ore. All found in sections 32 and 33 of Alden Township, east of Harvard. Found by William C. Zeeck, formerly of Alden, now resident of Illinois Masonic Home, Sullivan, Illinois.

Clear perfume bottle embossed with "Colgate & Co, Perfumers" no date. Another bottle embossed "The Kind Your Grandmother Used" manufactured by Sherer-Gilette Co. No date. Donor: Robert McGowan, Marengo.

Large walnut framed lithograph of the first reading of the Emancipation Proclamation showing Abraham Lincoln and his cabinet, circa 1866. Donor: from the Floyd Eckert estate attorney from Woodstock.

Acquisitions,(concluded.)

Edison phonograph with colorful green horn, painted with roses and 24 cylinders, circa 1910. Belonged to Mr. & Mrs. H. Haligus of Huntley. Donor: Mrs. Carl Knutson of Crystal Lake.

Illinois State Legislature.

HOUSE BILL #2739 - BUILDING DEMOLITION. If you are at all interested in preserving the many historic buildings from wanton destruction by developers, please write your State congressman concerning your feelings. This bill is an effort to prevent the hasty destruction of buildings of historic value, without a hearing by the concerned agencies and citizens of the community. Your help is needed!

Items for Sale.

As a result of renovation, we have several different items for sale, as follows:
Black and green school chalkboards - $10.00 large; $5.00 smaller.
School desks - $10.00 each.
Bathroom sinks - $10.00 each.) Or
Toilets - $10.00 each.) best
Urinals - $10.00 each.) offer!
1 bubble fountain - $10.00)
1862 maps of McHenry County - $10.00 each.

Museum Progress.

With the help of professional and volunteer help, the interior and exterior of the Museum are slowly being completed. The second floor rooms should be painted and in a degree of readiness for the selection and display of many items by the date of the annual meeting. The fire escape has been completed as well as several windows sealed inside and outside. The room air conditioners are in place and ready for use. The custodial apartment has been ready for some time and by the first of June will be occupied by our custodian. Pegboard wall display areas will be painted and many lighter farm implements and other artifacts will be displayed on them by the annual meeting date.

The following is a cost list of the many projects which have been completed -

May, 1972 to May 1975 - 3 years

	Insurance	$ 955.00
	Moving Artifacts to Museum	2,413.10
	Exhibit Hall floor cleaned professionally	190.00
	Removal of two (2) trees	416.00
	Plumbing Repairs	1,844.00 **
	Building repairs	392.00
	Fixtures repaired	478.00
	Gas heat	1,753.00
	Electricity	680.00
	Water	150.00
September, 1974	Original 1870 building and 1928 addition were reshingles at a cost of	4,949.30
September, 1974	Cupola was rebuilt, lined inside with hardware cloth and all pigeons and droppings were removed from attis and cupola	285.00
		$ 14,505.40
** Small Business Administration paid the flood damage		-1,700.00
	Total	$ 12,805.40

What doctor's office in Harvard was this? His first name was "Robert" ? He had the first xray machine in Harvard ? ? ?

McHenry County Historical Society
Box 434 - 6422 Main Street
Union, Illinois 60180

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